

Appl. No.: 10/738,393  
Amdt. dated 03/20/2006  
Reply to Office action of December 19, 2005

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants has canceled claims 1-17 and added new claims 18-53. The new claims correspond to original claims 1-17 and are fully supported by the specification. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments.

Claims 4-17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because they include multiple dependent claims dependent on other multiple dependent claims. The new claims are not in multiple dependent form so Applicants respectfully submit that this objection has been addressed.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. In particular, the Office Action mentions that the terms "in each case one side wall is articulated laterally," "at the bottom," "at the top," "it being the case," "vertical collar" and "if appropriate" are vague and indefinite. The new claims do not include these terms and therefore Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Cote (U.S. Patent No. 3,493,103). Nevertheless, Cote does not disclose or suggest the box or box blank recited in independent claims 18 and 36 (and the claims dependent thereon). The Office Action states that 43, 44 and 45 of Cote are positioned one above the other and are articulated on the side walls in a scoring formation. However, Cote does not disclose or suggest folding parts articulated on opposing side walls (i.e., the first side wall and the second side wall) as recited in the present claims. Claims 18-35 specifically recite that the folding parts are positioned one above the other. Therefore, the present claims are novel and non-obvious in view of Cote.

Furthermore, Cote does not disclose or suggest many of the additional features of the folding box blank of claim 36. For example, the "side wall" 15, "rear flap" 39 and "base flap" 24 of Cote are not provided along the "rear wall" 12 of Cote based on the arguments made by the Examiner. Therefore, claim 36 and the claims dependent thereon are also further patentable over Cote for these reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If any minor

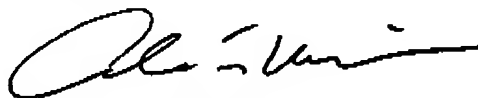
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informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is directed to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to facilitate prosecution of this case.

Applicants note that the Office has taken official notice that it is well known in the art to bond different components of a box by an adhesive to better secure the parts to one another. Although the claims are patentable for the reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully object to the official notice as there may be situations where an adhesive is appropriate and where an adhesive is not appropriate for securing parts together.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

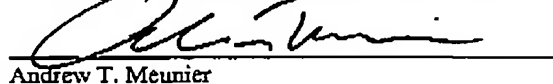


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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at  
Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

  
Andrew T. Meunier

3/20/06  
Date